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(72)Inventor: SUGIURA NORIO

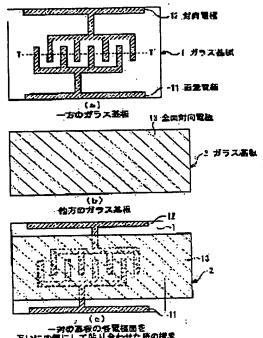
OMURO KATSUFUMI

(54) LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a liquid crystal display device having a liquid crystal layer consisting of a cholesteric liquid crystal or chiral nematic liquid crystal and having high display quality which suppresses generation of hysterisys and which makes low-voltage driving possible.

SOLUTION: A liquid crystal cell is produced by preparing a substrate 1 having pixel electrodes 11 and counter electrodes 12 each patterned into a comb-like form on the surface of the substrate and disposed facing each other with an equal gap from each other, preparing a substrate 2 having an all-face counter electrode on the surface, and holding a liquid crystal layer 3 consisting of a cholesteric liquid crystal or chiral nematic liquid crystal between the faces of the substrates where the electrodes are formed.



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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] It is the liquid crystal display which comes to pinch the liquid crystal layer which consists of cholesteric liquid crystal or a chiral pneumatic liquid crystal between the substrates of the pair which counters. In said one substrate front face, the 1st electrode corresponding to each pixel is arranged at said substrate front face of another side so that the 2nd electrode may counter mutually through said liquid crystal layer. Said 1st electrode The liquid crystal display characterized by impressing a predetermined electrical potential difference between said pixel electrodes and said counterelectrodes while having the counterelectrode put side by side so that it might counter in the same field as a pixel electrode and the pixel electrode concerned, being constituted and impressing a predetermined electrical potential difference between said pixel electrode and said 2nd electrode.

[Claim 2] the distance between said pixel electrodes and said counterelectrodes — 6 micrometers or less — it is — and the thickness of said liquid crystal layer — it can twist — a ratio with a pitch — the liquid crystal display according to claim 1 characterized by d/p being 14 or less.

[Claim 3] the thickness of said liquid crystal layer — 5 micrometers or less — it is — and the thickness of said liquid crystal layer — it can twist — the ratio of a pitch — the liquid crystal display according to claim 1 characterized by d/p being two or less.

[Claim 4] a torsion pitch — difference — the liquid crystal display according to claim 1 with which the laminating of said two or more liquid crystal layers which consist of liquid crystal is carried out through said substrate, and said each liquid crystal layer is characterized by coming to allot said 2nd electrode to the field of another side while said 1st electrode is arranged on one field.

[Claim 5] said liquid crystal layer — a torsion pitch — difference — the liquid crystal display according to claim 1 characterized by coming to be enclosed with the field divided with the shelter so that the liquid crystal of a lot might correspond to each pixel, and a picture element being constituted by the pixel group corresponding to the liquid crystal of said lot.
[Claim 6] the direction of torsion — difference — the liquid crystal display according to claim 1 with which the laminating of said two sorts which consist of liquid crystal of liquid crystal layers is carried out through said substrate, and said each liquid crystal layer is characterized by coming to allot said 2nd electrode to the field of another side while said 1st electrode is arranged on one field.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] Especially this invention relates to the liquid crystal display equipped with the liquid crystal layer which consists of cholesteric liquid crystal or a chiral pneumatic liquid crystal about a liquid crystal display.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] Generally, cholesteric liquid crystal has the various descriptions, such as light scattering and selective reflection, as a property based on the distorted molecular arrangement. As a liquid crystal cell of the liquid crystal display using this cholesteric liquid crystal, as shown in drawing 22, there are some which have the structure where the liquid crystal layer 105 of cholesteric liquid crystal was pinched between the substrates 101,102 of the pair which has an electrode 103,104 on a front face, respectively. This liquid crystal display is made to transform the orientation of the liquid crystal layer 105 by impressing an electrical potential difference between the electrodes 103,104 which counter, and, thereby, performs image display. The method which controls a dispersion condition and a transparence condition by the electrical potential difference, and the method which controls red, the selective reflection condition of a green or blue light, and a transparence condition by the electrical potential difference are shown in means of displaying. By any method, in order to acquire a good display property, it is necessary to enlarge angle of torsion of the cholesteric-liquid-crystal molecule of the liquid crystal layer 105.

[0003]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, generally, in the liquid crystal display using cholesteric liquid crystal, when angle of torsion becomes 300 degrees or more, a hysteresis occurs. When this hysteresis exists, in order that the orientation condition at the time of electrical-potential-difference impression may be dependent on the orientation condition before electrical-potential-difference impression, there is a problem that good image display cannot be obtained. A hysteresis tends to increase, so that angle of torsion becomes large.

[0004] Then, the purpose of this invention is offering the high liquid crystal display of the display grace which inhibits generating of a hysteresis and enables the drive by the low battery about the liquid crystal display equipped with the liquid crystal layer which consists of cholesteric liquid crystal or a chiral pneumatic liquid crystal.

[0005]

[Means for Solving the Problem] The liquid crystal display of this invention is a thing which comes to pinch the liquid crystal layer which consists of cholesteric liquid crystal or a chiral pneumatic liquid crystal between the substrates of the pair which counters. In said one substrate front face, the 1st electrode corresponding to each pixel is arranged at said substrate front face of another side so that the 2nd electrode may counter mutually through said liquid crystal layer. Said 1st electrode While having the counterelectrode put side by side so that it might counter in the same field as a pixel electrode and the pixel electrode concerned, being constituted and impressing a predetermined electrical potential difference between said pixel electrode and said 2nd electrode, a predetermined electrical potential difference is impressed between said pixel electrodes and said counterelectrodes.

[0006] 1 voice of the liquid crystal display of this invention — like — setting — the distance between said pixel electrodes and said counterelectrodes — 6 micrometers or less — it is — and the thickness of said liquid crystal layer — it can twist — a ratio with a pitch — d/p is 14 or less.

[0007] 1 voice of the liquid crystal display of this invention — like — setting — the thickness of

said liquid crystal layer — it can twist — a ratio with a pitch — d/p is four or less.

[0008] 1 voice of the liquid crystal display of this invention — like — setting — the thickness of said liquid crystal layer — 5 micrometers or less — it is — and the thickness of said liquid crystal layer — it can twist — the ratio of a pitch — d/p is two or less.

[0009] 1 voice of the liquid crystal display of this invention — like — setting — a torsion pitch — difference — the laminating of said two or more liquid crystal layers which consist of liquid crystal is carried out through said substrate, and while said 1st electrode is arranged on one field, as for said each liquid crystal layer, it comes to allot said 2nd electrode to the field of another side

[0010] 1 voice of the liquid crystal display of this invention — like — setting — said liquid crystal layer — a torsion pitch — difference — it comes to be enclosed with the field divided with the shelter so that the liquid crystal of a lot might correspond to each pixel, and a picture element is constituted by the pixel group corresponding to the liquid crystal of said lot.
[0011] 1 voice of the liquid crystal display of this invention — like — setting — the direction of torsion — difference — the laminating of said two sorts which consist of liquid crystal of liquid crystal layers is carried out through said substrate, and while said 1st electrode is arranged on one field, as for said each liquid crystal layer, it comes to allot said 2nd electrode to the field of another side

[0012]

[Function] In the liquid crystal display of this invention, while a pixel electrode and this, and the counterelectrode put side by side are formed in one substrate front face as the 1st electrode, and the 2nd electrode is prepared in the substrate front face of another side which counters and impressing a predetermined electrical potential difference between the pixel electrode and the 2nd electrode which are the component of the 1st electrode, a predetermined electrical potential difference is impressed between a pixel electrode and a counterelectrode. That is, in the liquid crystal layer pinched by the substrate of a pair, since control by the predetermined electrical potential difference is performed to each of the field inboard which intersects perpendicularly with the thickness direction and this, generating of a hysteresis is efficiently inhibited by two sorts of armature-voltage control from which these directions differ, and a high-definition display image is realized.

[0013]

[Embodiment of the Invention] It explains to a detail, referring to a drawing hereafter about the concrete operation gestalt which applied this invention. <u>Drawing 1</u> is the outline top view showing the main configurations of the image display device of this operation gestalt, and <u>drawing 2</u> is an outline sectional view in alignment with broken-line I-I' of the image display device of <u>drawing 1</u>. [0014] The image display device of this operation gestalt is equipped with the liquid crystal cell which has it come to pinch the liquid crystal layer 3 which consists of cholesteric liquid crystal or a chiral pneumatic liquid crystal with the glass substrates 1 and 2 of a pair with which the electrode was respectively formed in the front face, and is constituted.

[0015] As shown in <u>drawing 1</u> (a), a glass substrate 1 has the 1st electrode which the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12 are put side by side on a front face (opposed face with a glass substrate 2), and becomes, and is constituted. Patterning of the pixel electrode 11 and the counterelectrode 12 is respectively carried out to a ctenidium configuration, and they are formed so that it may counter at equal intervals mutually. Thus, in the 1st constituted electrode, it will be equivalent to 1 pixel by the part of the pixel electrode 11 which carries out phase opposite, and a counterelectrode 12 (that is, the pixel electrode 11 equivalent to 3 pixels is shown by the example of <u>drawing 2</u>.), and both non-illustrated thin film transistors (TFT:Thin Film Transistor) will be prepared for every pixel.

[0016] On the other hand, as shown in <u>drawing 1</u> (b), the 2nd electrode (whole surface counterelectrode 13) is formed, and the glass substrate 2 is constituted so that the surface (opposed face with a glass substrate 1) whole surface may be covered.

[0017] And as shown in <u>drawing 1</u> (c) and <u>drawing 2</u>, the liquid crystal layer 3 is pinched with glass substrates 1 and 2 so that the 1st electrode and 2nd electrode may be made to counter, a predetermined power source is connected to each electrode, and an image display device is

constituted.

[0018] Here, the principle of operation of the image display device of this operation gestalt is explained. Drawing 3 is the outline sectional view showing an example by which a pulse voltage is impressed to each electrode of an image display device from a power source E. A counterelectrode 12 and the whole surface counterelectrode 13 are made into same electric potential, and a predetermined electrical potential difference is impressed to this image display device between the pixel electrode 11 and the whole surface counterelectrode 13 and between the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12.

[0019] Like the above, by impressing a predetermined electrical potential difference to each of the field inboard which intersects perpendicularly with the liquid crystal layer 3 with the thickness direction and this, as shown in <u>drawing 4</u>, torsion is cleared from the liquid crystal molecule on the pixel electrode 11. The actuation by which the hysteresis was decreased and stabilized is obtained by being able to twist with the distance (inter-electrode spare time L) of the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12, thickness [of the liquid crystal layer 3] d, and thickness d, and adjusting a ratio (d/p) with a pitch p to a ** value, as shown below.

[0020] – Example of an experiment – The examples of many experiment which investigated thickness [of an electrical-potential-difference permeability property, the inter-electrode spare

time L, and a liquid crystal layer] d and the correlation of the value of d/p and a hysteresis are shown concretely.

[0021] On each front face of a glass substrate 2 in which the glass substrate 1 and the whole surface counterelectrode 13 with which the pixel electrode 11 and the counterelectrode 12 were formed in the front face were formed, as orientation film Form the trade name AL3046 which is the parallel orientation film by Japan Synthetic Rubber Co., Ltd. with a spin coat, and rubbing processing is performed. The liquid crystal layer 3 which consists of cholesteric liquid crystal (Merck what mixed trade name CB-15 which are chiral company material to the trade name TL 202 which is shrine liquid crystal, and adjusted the pitch) with these glass substrates 1 and 2 is pinched, and a liquid crystal cell is produced. Said monograph affair for forming the liquid crystal cell concerned is named generically, and it considers as Conditions A.

[0022] (Example 1 of an experiment) An electrical-potential-difference permeability property (V-T property) is measured first. In this example, it adds to Conditions A, and they are the pixel electrode width of face W1 and the counterelectrode width of face W2 about the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12. And when the inter-electrode spare time L is defined like drawing 5, as shown in drawing 6. The pixel electrode width of face W1 and counterelectrode width of face W2 And the glass substrate 1 formed so that each value of the inter-electrode spare time L might become equal is used. The pigmentum nigrum was mixed in liquid crystal so that change of a hysteresis might be in sight, the liquid crystal cell was produced so that the thickness of the liquid crystal layer 3 might be set to 6 micrometers and d/p might be set to 2.26, and the electrical-potential-difference permeability property (V-T property) was measured. Here, the conventional liquid crystal cell as shown in drawing 22 was created as an example of a comparison of this example, and it measured similarly.

[0023] A measurement result is shown in <u>drawing 7</u>. Thus, although the big hysteresis appeared in the conventional example, to it, by this example, a hysteresis was hardly seen but reduction of a large hysteresis has been checked.

[0024] In this example, it adds to Conditions A. (Experiment 2) The pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12 The pixel electrode width of face W1 and counterelectrode width of face W2 And it is formed so that each value of the inter-electrode spare time L may become equal. Using each glass substrate 1 with which inter-electrode spare time L was set to 4 micrometers, 6 micrometers, 10 micrometers, 15 micrometers, and 25 micrometers, d/p was changed, the liquid crystal cell was produced, respectively, and the relation between d/p and a hysteresis band was investigated. However, a hysteresis band is defined as the maximum width of a hysteresis. The conventional liquid crystal cell as shown in drawing 22 was made into the example of a comparison like the experiment 1 also here.

[0025] A measurement result is shown in <u>drawing 8</u>. If the value of d/p becomes large, a hysteresis will become large, in order that the liquid crystal molecule on the pixel electrode 11

may deform perpendicularly to a glass substrate 1 and may begin to present complicated orientation deformation. It turns out that it is not based on the inter-electrode spare time L when d/p is 14 or less and the inter-electrode spare time L is 6 micrometers or less, but it has specifically become a hysteresis smaller than the conventional example when d/p is four or less. The result which thickness d of the liquid crystal layer 3 is 5 micrometers or less, and a hysteresis has hardly generated especially when d/p is two or less was obtained. The relation of the inter-electrode spare time L and d/p which can check reduction of a hysteresis comes to be shown in the following table 1.

[0026]

[Table 1]

Table 1	
電極間隙し	d∕p
4 μ m	16以下
6 μm	14以下
10μm	4 UF
15μm	4以下
25 µm	4以下

[0027] In addition, the improvement of a hysteresis was found when the measurement same also about the liquid crystal cell using the perpendicular orientation film as experiments 1 and 2 was tried.

[0028] In this example, it adds to Conditions A. (Experiment 3) The pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12 The pixel electrode width of face W1 and counterelectrode width of face W2 And the liquid crystal cell which set inter-electrode spare time L to 4 micrometers using the glass substrate 1 formed so that each value of the inter-electrode spare time L might become equal (cel a), As an example of a comparison, the liquid crystal cell (cel b) which does not have the whole surface counterelectrode 13 was used for the glass substrate 2 by said liquid crystal cell as shown in drawing 9. It asked for the driver voltage to which permeability becomes almost fixed from the electrical-potential-difference permeability property which measured and measured the electrical-potential-difference permeability property using these liquid crystal cells.

[0029] A measurement result is shown in <u>drawing 10</u>. Thus, as compared with Cel b, a hysteresis is small for whether your being Haruka, and, as for Cel a, it turns out that driver voltage can be made low.

[0030] In this example, it adds to Conditions A. (Experiment 4) The pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12 When the glass substrate 1 formed so that it might be set to pixel electrode width-of-face W1= counterelectrode width-of-face W2 != inter-electrode spare time L is used (drawing 11 (a)), When the glass substrate 1 formed so that it might become the pixel electrode width-of-face W1 = inter-electrode spare time L!= counterelectrode width of face W2 (even the pixel electrode width-of-face W2 = inter-electrode spare time L!= counterelectrode width of face W1 is the same) is used (drawing 11 (b)), The pixel electrode width of face W1 and counterelectrode width of face W2 And experiments 1-3 were conducted about each at the time of considering as the value from which the inter-electrode spare time L all differs (drawing 11 (c)). Consequently, in any case, the improvement of a hysteresis was found.

[0031] - Explain many modifications of the image display device of this operation gestalt below modification -. Here, a same sign is described about the same configuration member as the image display device of this operation gestalt, and explanation is omitted.

[0032] (Modification 1) Here, as shown in <u>drawing 12</u>, the image display device equipped with the liquid crystal cell which made the crosswise cross-section configuration of the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12 the letter of a projection is indicated. A projection configuration can use a thing like illustration, the thing which chose the taper angle as arbitration, and the thing which consisted of curved surfaces. Also in this case, an extensive improvement of a hysteresis is found like this operation gestalt.

[0033] (Modification 2) Here, as shown in <u>drawing 13</u>, the image display device equipped with the liquid crystal cell which comes to pinch the liquid crystal layer 3 of cholesteric liquid crystal using the glass substrate 1 with which the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12 are formed from aluminum (aluminum), and become, and the glass substrate 2 to which it comes to form the whole surface counterelectrode 13 with a transparent electrode (ITO) is indicated. When the image display property was observed using this liquid crystal cell, it checked that the light reflected with the pixel electrode 11 and counterelectrode 12 which are an aluminum electrode could also be used effectively, and could obtain a good display.

[0034] Although aluminum was used for the pixel electrode 11 and the counterelectrode 12 as an ingredient in both these examples, it is also possible to use a metal with a high silver (Ag) reflection factor or to use a metal which is different with the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12.

[0035] (Modification 3) Here, as shown in <u>drawing 14</u>, the image display device equipped with the liquid crystal cell which comes to pinch the liquid crystal layer 3 of cholesteric liquid crystal using the silicon substrate 21 in which the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12 are formed with a transparent electrode, and which they become, and the glass substrate 2 to which it comes to form the whole surface counterelectrode 13 with a transparent electrode is indicated. When the image display property was observed using this liquid crystal cell, it checked that the light reflected by the silicon substrate 21 could also be used effectively, and could obtain a good display.

[0036] (Modification 4) Here, as shown in <u>drawing 15</u>, the image display device equipped with the liquid crystal cell which comes to pinch the liquid crystal layer 3 of cholesteric liquid crystal using the glass substrate 1 with which the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12 are formed with a transparent electrode, and become, and the glass substrate 2 with which it comes to form the whole surface counterelectrode 13 in Cr layer is indicated. According to this liquid crystal cell, Cr layer functions as a light absorption layer, and since the light which reached Cr layer is absorbed, it can acquire a good black condition.

[0037] (Modification 5) Here, as shown in <u>drawing 16</u>, the image display device equipped with the liquid crystal cell which comes to pinch the liquid crystal layer 3 of cholesteric liquid crystal using the glass substrate 1 with which the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12 are formed with a transparent electrode, and become, and the glass substrate 2 which it comes to consider as the laminating configuration of black light absorption layer 13a whose whole surface counterelectrode 13 is Cr layer, and transparent electrode 13b is indicated. According to this liquid crystal cell, black light absorption layer 13a functions as a light absorption layer, and since the light which reached black light absorption layer 13a is absorbed, it can acquire a good black condition.

[0038] (Modification 6) Here, as shown in <u>drawing 17</u>, the liquid crystal cell which comes to pinch the liquid crystal layer 3 of cholesteric liquid crystal using the silicon substrate 1 in which the pixel electrode 11 and a counterelectrode 12 are formed with a transparent electrode, and which they become, and the glass substrate 2 to which it comes to form the whole surface counterelectrode 13 with a transparent electrode is constituted, and the image display device which comes to stick the black light absorption plate 22 on the tooth back of a liquid crystal cell is indicated. According to this liquid crystal cell, since the light which reached the black light absorption plate 22 is absorbed, it can acquire a good black condition.

[0039] (Modification 7) here, it is shown in drawing 18 -- as -- a torsion pitch -- difference --

the image display device equipped with each liquid crystal cell which comes to pinch the threelayer liquid crystal layers 3a, 3b, and 3c which consist of liquid crystal through glass substrates 31-34, respectively is indicated. In this liquid crystal cell, each electrode is formed in glass substrates 31-34 so that the 1st electrode (the pixel electrode 11 and counterelectrode 12) may consist in one field of each liquid crystal layers 3a, 3b, and 3c and the 2nd electrode (whole surface counterelectrode 13) may consist in the field of another side. That is, in one front face of the 2nd electrode and glass substrates 32 and 33, the 2nd electrode is formed in the front face of the 1st electrode and another side by one front face (liquid crystal layer 3a side) of a glass substrate 31 at one front face (liquid crystal layer 3c side) of the 1st electrode and a glass substrate 34. And the polarizer of two sheets which made the lower part (front face of another side of a glass substrate 31) of the liquid crystal cell by which the laminating was carried out, and a polarization shaft cross at right angles as a black light absorption plate 35 is stuck. [0040] Each electrodes 11-13 are specifically formed from a transparent electrode. The pixel electrode width of face W1, Counterelectrode width of face W2 And the glass substrates 31-34 formed so that each value of the inter-electrode spare time L might become equal are used. A torsion pitch 0.40 micrometers, 0.33 micrometers, Pinch the liquid crystal layers 3a, 3b, and 3c which consist of cholesteric liquid crystal (Merck what could mix and twist trade name CB-15 which are chiral company material to the trade name TL 202 which is shrine liquid crystal, and adjusted the pitch) which is 0.27 micrometers, respectively, and each liquid crystal cell is produced. The laminating of them is carried out.

[0041] It has checked that eight colors of black, white, red, green, blue, yellow, purple, and a light blue were obtained by making each liquid crystal cell drive on an electrical potential difference. In this case, as for each liquid crystal cell equipped with the liquid crystal layers 3a, 3b, and 3c, the large blue and color change by viewing if it is green and the range which selective reflection of the red light can be carried out, and is 0.25 micrometers – 0.30 micrometers, 0.31 micrometers – 0.36 micrometers, and 0.38 micrometers – 0.44 micrometers, respectively was not seen, respectively.

[0042] (Modification 8) the glass substrates 1 and 2 which form the pixel electrode 11, a counterelectrode 12, and the whole surface counterelectrode 13 from a transparent electrode, respectively, and become here as shown in drawing 19 — using — between the glass substrate 1 concerned and 2 — it can twist — a pitch — difference — three sorts of liquid crystal layers 3d, 3e, and 3f which consist of liquid crystal molecules are formed repeatedly, a liquid crystal cell is constituted, and the image display device which comes to stick the black light absorption plate 42 on a cel tooth back is indicated. In this liquid crystal cell, said each liquid crystal is enclosed with the field divided with the shelter 41 for preventing mixing of liquid crystal, it corresponds for every pixel, and one [liquid crystal layers / 3d, 3e, and 3f] is prepared. In this case, a picture element consists of pixel groups of the lot corresponding to the liquid crystal layers 3d, 3e, and 3f, and eight colors of black, white, red, green, blue, yellow, purple, and a light blue are obtained by carrying out the electrical-potential-difference drive of the liquid crystal layer corresponding to each pixel.

[0043] Each electrodes 11-13 are formed from a transparent electrode, and, specifically, they are the pixel electrode width of face W1 and the counterelectrode width of face W2. And the liquid crystal layers 3d, 3e, and 3f which a torsion pitch becomes from the cholesteric liquid crystal which is 0.27 micrometers, 0.33 micrometers, and 0.40 micrometers are allotted for every pixel using the glass substrates 1 and 2 formed so that each value of the inter-electrode spare time L might become equal, and a liquid crystal cell is produced.

[0044] (Modification 9) here, it is shown in <u>drawing 20</u> — as — the direction of torsion — difference — that is, the image display device equipped with each liquid crystal cell which comes to pinch 3h of liquid crystal layers which consist of liquid crystal of 3g of liquid crystal layers which consist of liquid crystal of left hand, and right hand through glass substrates 51–53, respectively is indicated. In this liquid crystal cell, each electrode is formed in glass substrates 51–53 so that the 1st electrode (the pixel electrode 11 and counterelectrode 12) may consist in one each liquid crystal layers [3g and 3h] field and the 2nd electrode (whole surface counterelectrode 13) may consist in the field of another side. That is, in one front face of the

2nd electrode and a glass substrate 52, the 2nd electrode is formed in the front face of the 1st electrode and another side by one front face of a glass substrate 51 at one front face of the 1st electrode and a glass substrate 53. And the black light absorption plate 54 is stuck on the tooth back of the liquid crystal cell by which the laminating was carried out.

[0045] Specifically, it is Merck as right hand cholesteric liquid crystal. It is Merck as what mixed trade name CB-15 which are chiral company material to the trade name TL 202 which is shrine liquid crystal, and cholesteric liquid crystal of left hand. The laminating of what added the trade name Ys which is chiral company material was carried out to the trade name TL 202 which is shrine liquid crystal, it could twist so that selective reflection light with green all might be obtained, and the pitch was adjusted to 0.34 micrometers. As a result of observing the liquid crystal panel which carried out the laminating, it checked that a bright display was obtained as compared with the liquid crystal panel of a monolayer.

[0046] (Modification 10) As shown in <u>drawing 21</u>, the image display device which the forward-scattering plate 61 sticks on a front face, the black light absorption plate 62 sticks on a tooth back, and it comes to unite is illustrated using the same liquid crystal panel as this operation gestalt illustrated to <u>drawing 2</u>. As a result of observing the display image of this liquid crystal panel, when changing an electrical potential difference, it checked that contrast better than the case where there is no forward-scattering plate 61 was acquired.

[0047] Many modes shown below also constitute this invention.

[0048] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by a torsion pitch being 0.25 micrometers – 0.44 micrometers.

[0049] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by the distance of the electrode width of face of said pixel electrode or the electrode width of face of a counterelectrode, and said pixel electrode and said counterelectrode differing.

[0050] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by the width of face of said pixel electrode differing from the width of face of said counterelectrode.

[0051] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by making each cross-section configuration of said pixel electrode and said counterelectrode into the letter of a projection.

[0052] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by forming said one electrode of each of said substrate with the metal.

[0053] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by being formed with the metal with which said pixel electrode and said counterelectrode differ from each other.

[0054] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by one side of each of said substrate having a light reflex function.

[0055] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by one side of each of said substrate having a light absorption function.

[0056] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by forming the light absorption layer between said electrodes and substrates concerned about one side of each of said substrate.

[0057] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by giving the light absorption layer to one side of each of said substrate outside.

[0058] It is one mode of a liquid crystal display, and is characterized by sticking the scattered plate on one side of each of said substrate.
[0059]

[Effect of the Invention] According to this invention, about the liquid crystal display equipped with the liquid crystal layer which consists of cholesteric liquid crystal or a chiral pneumatic liquid crystal, generating of a hysteresis is inhibited and the high liquid crystal display of the display grace which enables the drive by the low battery is realized.

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the outline top view showing the main configurations of the image display device of this operation gestalt.

[Drawing 2] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of this operation gestalt.

[Drawing 3] It is the outline sectional view showing an example by which a pulse voltage is impressed to each electrode of the image display device of this operation gestalt.

[Drawing 4] It is an outline sectional view for explaining the principle of operation of the image display device of this operation gestalt.

[Drawing 5] About a pixel electrode and a counterelectrode, they are the pixel electrode width of face W1 and the counterelectrode width of face W2. And it is the outline sectional view which defines the inter-electrode spare time L.

[Drawing 6] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of the example 1 of an experiment.

[Drawing 7] It is the property Fig. showing the measurement result of an electrical-potential-difference permeability property (V-T property).

[Drawing 8] It is the property Fig. in which being able to twist with thickness d of a liquid crystal layer, and showing the relation between a ratio (d/p) with a pitch p, and a hysteresis band.
[Drawing 9] It is the outline sectional view showing the liquid crystal cell which does not have a whole surface counterelectrode.

[Drawing 10] It is the property Fig. in which being able to twist with thickness d of a liquid crystal layer, and showing the relation between a ratio (d/p) with a pitch p, and a hysteresis band.

[Drawing 11] They are the pixel electrode width of face W1, the counterelectrode width of face W2, and the outline sectional view showing the various liquid crystal cells which changed the relation of the inter-electrode spare time L.

[Drawing 12] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of a modification 1.

[Drawing 13] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of a modification 2.

[Drawing 14] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of a modification 3.

[Drawing 15] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of a modification 4.

[Drawing 16] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of a modification 5.

[Drawing 17] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of a modification 6.

[Drawing 18] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of a modification 7.

[Drawing 19] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of a modification 8.

[Drawing 20] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of a modification 9.

[Drawing 21] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the image display device of a modification 10.

[Drawing 22] It is the outline sectional view showing the main configurations of the conventional image display device.

[Description of Notations]

- 1, 2, 31-34, 51-53 Glass substrate
- 3, 3a-3h Liquid crystal layer
- 11 Pixel Electrode
- 12 Counterelectrode
- 13 Whole Surface Counterelectrode
- 21 Silicon Substrate
- 22, 35, 42, 54, 62 Black light absorption plate
- 41 Shelter
- 61 Forward-Scattering Plate

[Translation done.]

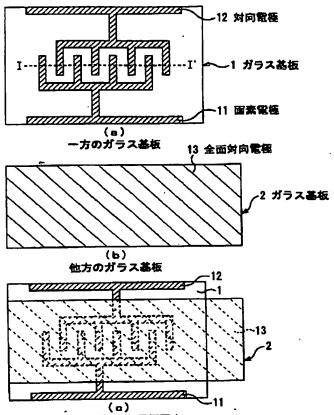
* NOTICES *

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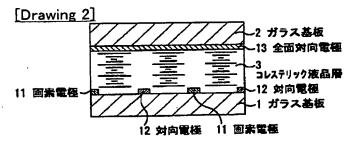
- 1. This document has been translated by computer. So the translation may not reflect the original precisely.
- 2.**** shows the word which can not be translated.
- 3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

DRAWINGS

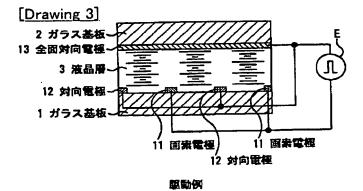
[Drawing 1]



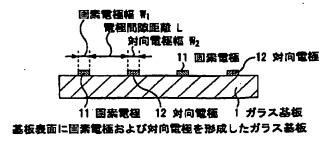
一対の基板の各電極面を 互いに内側にして貼り合わせた時の構成

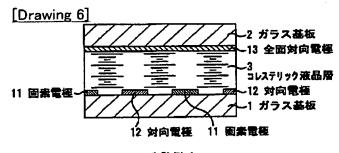


本実施形態の液晶セル

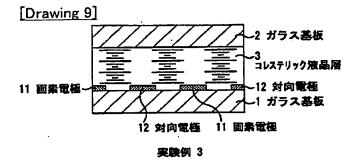


[Drawing 5]

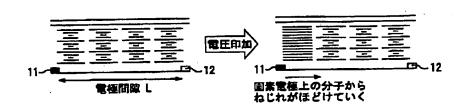




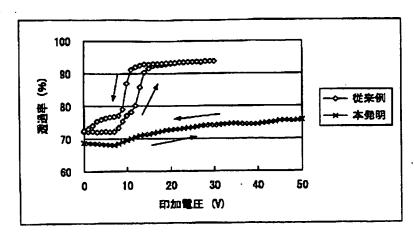
実験例 1



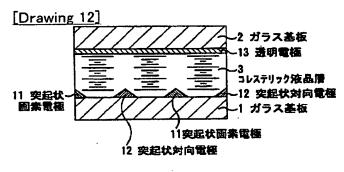
[Drawing 4]



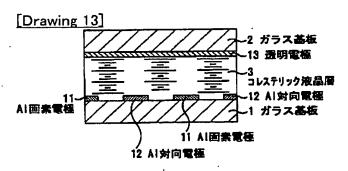
[Drawing 7]



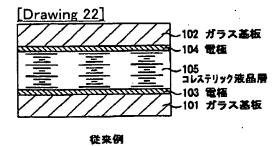
電圧透過率特性(セル厚6μm、d/p=2.28)



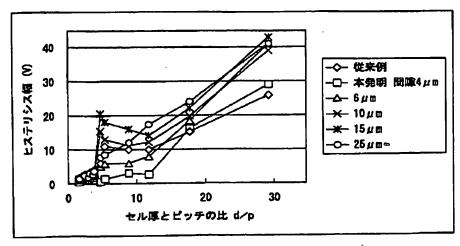
变形例 1



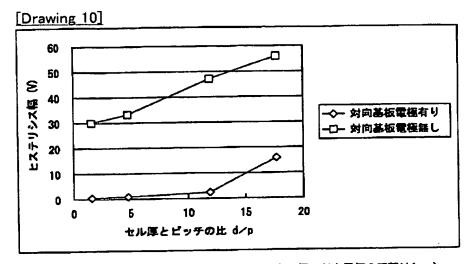
変形例 2



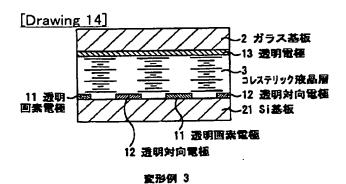
[Drawing 8]



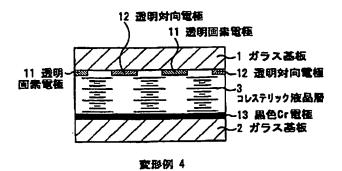
セル耳とピッチの比dノpとヒステリシス幅の関係



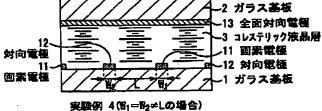
対向基板の電極有無とヒステリシスの関係(画素電標と対向電極の距離は4μm)

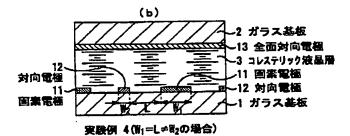


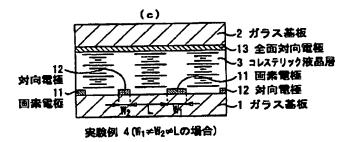
[Drawing 15]

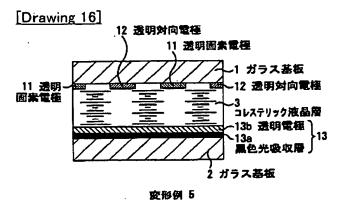


[Drawing 11]
(a)

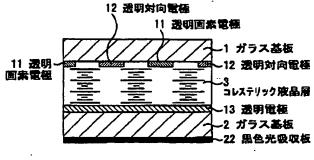




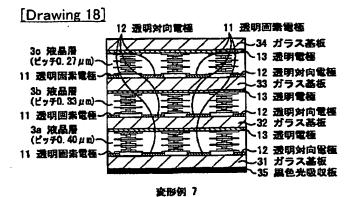




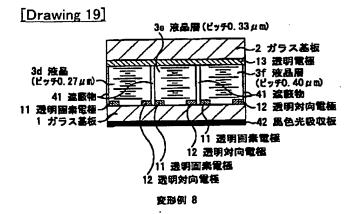
[Drawing 17]



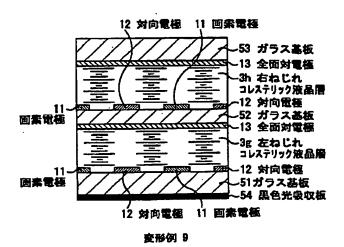
变形例 6



変形例 10



[Drawing 20]



[Translation done.]

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(51) Int.Cl. ⁷		識別配号	ΡI			テーマコート*(参考)
G02F	1/139		G02F	1/137	505	2H088
	1/1365		6	1/136	500	2H092

寒杏静水 未静水 静水項の数6 OL (全 11 頁)

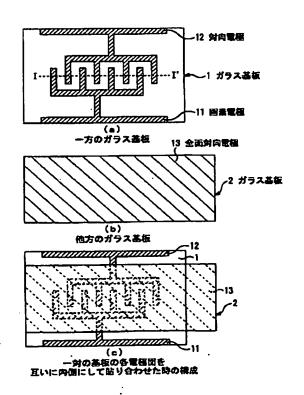
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(21)出願番号	特願平11-274859	(71) 出願人	000005223
			富士通株式会社
(22) 出願日 1	平成11年9月28日(1999.9.28)		神奈川県川崎市中原区上小田中4丁目1番
			1号
		(72)発明者	杉浦 規生
			神奈川県川崎市中原区上小田中4丁目1番
			1号 富士通株式会社内
		(72)発明者	大室 克文
			神奈川県川崎市中原区上小田中4丁目1番
			1号 富士通株式会社内
		(74)代理人	100090273
		(12/42)	弁理士 國分 孝悦
			月生上 四八 子似
			最終質に続く

(54) 【発明の名称】 液晶表示装置

(57)【要約】

【課題】 コレステリック液晶又はカイラルネマティッ ク液晶からなる液晶層を備えた液晶表示装置について、 ヒステリシスの発生を抑止し、低電圧による駆動を可能 とする表示品位の高い液晶表示装置を提供する。

【解決手段】 表面に画素電極11と対向電極12が各 々櫛歯形状にバターニングされ、互いに等間隔で対向す るように併設されてなる基板1と、表面に全面対向電極 が形成されてなる基板2とにより各電極が形成された面 でコレステリック液晶又はカイラルネマティック液晶か らなる液晶層3を挟持して液晶セルが構成される。



10

【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 対向する一対の基板間にコレステリック 液晶又はカイラルネマティック液晶からなる液晶層を挟 持してなる液晶表示装置であって、

1

一方の前記基板表面には各画素に対応した第1の電極 が、他方の前記基板表面には第2の電極が前記液晶層を 介して互いに対向するように配置されており、

前記第1の電極は、画索電極及び当該画索電極と同一面 内で対向するように併設された対向電極を有して構成さ

前記画索電極と前記第2の電極との間に所定の電圧が印 加されるとともに、前記画素電極と前記対向電極との間 に所定の電圧が印加されることを特徴とする液晶表示装

【請求項2】 前記画素電極と前記対向電極との間の距 離が6µm以下であり、且つ前記液晶層の厚みとねじれ ピッチとの比d/pが14以下であることを特徴とする 請求項1に記載の液晶表示装置。

【請求項3】 前記液晶層の厚みが5 μm以下であり、 且つ前記液晶層の厚みとねじれピッチの比d/pが2以 20 た液晶表示装置について、ヒステリシスの発生を抑止 下であることを特徴とする請求項1に記載の液晶表示装

【請求項4】 ねじれピッチの相異なる液晶からなる複 数の前記液晶層が前記基板を介して積層されており、 前記各液晶層は、一方の面には前記第1の電極が配され るとともに、他方の面には前記第2の電極が配されてな ることを特徴とする請求項1 に記載の液晶表示装置。

【請求項5】 前記液晶層は、ねじれピッチの相異なる 一組の液晶が各画素に対応するように遮蔽物で仕切られ た領域に封入されてなり、前記一組の液晶に対応する画 **素群により絵素が構成されることを特徴とする請求項**1 に記載の液晶表示装置。

【請求項6】 ねじれ方向の相異なる液晶からなる2種 の前記液晶層が前記基板を介して積層されており、 前記各液晶層は、一方の面には前記第1の電極が配され るとともに、他方の面には前記第2の電極が配されてな ることを特徴とする請求項1に記載の液晶表示装置。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は液晶表示装置に関 し、特にコレステリック液晶又はカイラルネマティック 液晶からなる液晶層を備えた液晶表示装置に関する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】一般に、コレステリック液晶は、そのね じれた分子配列に基づく性質として光散乱や選択反射等 の様々な特徴を有している。とのコレステリック液晶を 用いた液晶表示装置の液晶セルとしては、図22に示す ように、表面にそれぞれ電極103,104を有する一 対の基板101、102間にコレステリック液晶の液晶 **層105が挟持された構造を有するものがある。この液 50**

晶表示装置は、対向する電極103.104間に電圧を 印加することで液晶層105の配向を変形させ、これに より画像表示を行う。表示方式には、飲乱状態と透明状 態を電圧で制御する方式や、赤色、緑色もしくは青色の 光の選択反射状態と透明状態を電圧で制御する方式があ る。いずれの方式でも、良好な表示特性を得るためには 液晶層105のコレステリック液晶分子のねじれ角を太 きくする必要がある。

2

[0003]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】しかしながら、一般に コレステリック液晶を用いた液晶表示装置では、ねじれ 角が300。以上となることによりヒステリシスが発生 する。このヒステリシスが存在する場合、電圧印加時の 配向状態が電圧印加前の配向状態に依存するために良好 な画像表示を得ることができないという問題がある。ね じれ角が大きくなるほどヒステリシスは増大する傾向に ある。

【0004】そこで本発明の目的は、コレステリック液 晶又はカイラルネマティック液晶からなる液晶層を備え し、低電圧による駆動を可能とする表示品位の高い液晶 表示装置を提供することである。

[0005]

【課題を解決するための手段】本発明の液晶表示装置 は、対向する一対の基板間にコレステリック液晶又はカ イラルネマティック液晶からなる液晶層を挟持してなる ものであって、一方の前記基板表面には各画素に対応し た第1の電極が、他方の前記基板表面には第2の電極が 前記液晶層を介して互いに対向するように配置されてお り、前記第1の電極は、画素電極及び当該画素電極と同 一面内で対向するように併設された対向電極を有して構 成され、前記画素電極と前記第2の電極との間に所定の 電圧が印加されるとともに、前記画素電極と前記対向電 極との間に所定の電圧が印加される。

[0006]本発明の液晶表示装置の一態様において、 前記画素電極と前記対向電極との間の距離が6μm以下 であり、且つ前記液晶層の厚みとねじれピッチとの比d /pが14以下である。

[0007] 本発明の液晶表示装置の一態様において、 40 前記液晶層の厚みとねじれピッチとの比d/pが4以下 である。

[0008] 本発明の液晶表示装置の一態様において、 前記液晶層の厚みが5µm以下であり、且つ前記液晶層 の厚みとねじれピッチの比 d/pが2以下である。

[0009]本発明の液晶表示装置の一態様において、 ねじれピッチの相異なる液晶からなる複数の前記液晶層 が前記基板を介して積層されており、前記各液晶層は、 一方の面には前記第1の電極が配されるとともに、他方 の面には前記第2の電極が配されてなる。

【0010】本発明の液晶表示装置の一態様において、

前記液晶層は、ねじれピッチの相異なる一組の液晶が各 画素に対応するように遮蔽物で仕切られた領域に封入さ れてなり、前記一組の液晶に対応する画素群により絵素 が構成される。

【0011】本発明の液晶表示装置の一態様において、 ねじれ方向の相異なる液晶からなる2種の前配液晶層が 前記基板を介して積層されており、前記各液晶層は、一 方の面には前記第1の電極が配されるとともに、他方の 面には前記第2の電極が配されてなる。

[0012]

【作用】本発明の液晶表示装置においては、一方の基板 表面に第1の電極として画素電極及びこれと併設された 対向電極が形成され、対向する他方の基板表面に第2の 電極が設けられており、第1の電極の構成要素である画 素電極と第2の電極との間に所定電圧を印加するととも に、画素電極と対向電極との間に所定電圧を印加する。 即ち、一対の基板に挟持された液晶層には、厚み方向及 びとれと直交する面内方向の各々に所定電圧による制御 が行なわれるため、これら方向の異なる2種の電圧制御 により効率的にヒステリシスの発生が抑止され、髙品位 20 の表示画像が実現する。

[0013]

【発明の実施の形態】以下、本発明を適用した具体的な 実施形態について図面を参照しながら詳細に説明する。 図1は本実施形態の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略 平面図であり、図2は図1の画像表示装置の破線 I-I' に沿った概略断面図である。

【0014】本実施形態の画像表示装置は、各々表面に 電極が形成された一対のガラス基板1,2によりコレス テリック液晶又はカイラルネマティック液晶からなる液 30 晶層3を挟持されてなる液晶セルを備えて構成されてい

【OO15】ガラス基板1は、図1(a)に示すよう に、表面(ガラス基板2との対向面)に画素電極11と 対向電極12とが併設されてなる第1の電極を有して構 成されている。画素電極11及び対向電極12は、各々 櫛歯形状にパターニングされ、互いに等間隔で対向する ように形成されている。このように構成された第1の電 極において、相対向する画素電極11と対向電極12の 部位で1画素に相当し(即ち、図2の例では3画素に相 40 当する画衆電極 1 1 が示されている。)、各画素毎に不 図示の薄膜トランジスタ(TFT: Thin Film Transist or) が共に設けられることになる。

【0016】他方、ガラス基板2は、図1(b)に示す ように、表面(ガラス基板1との対向面)の全面を覆う ように第2の電極(全面対向電極13)が形成されて構 成されている。

【0017】そして、図1(c)及び図2に示すよう に、第1の電極と第2の電極を対向させるようにガラス 基板1,2により液晶層3を挟み、各電極に所定の電源 50 極幅W,及び電極間隙Lの各値が等しくなるように形成

が接続されて画像表示装置が構成される。

【0018】 ことで、本実施形態の画像表示装置の動作 原理について説明する。図3は、画像表示装置の各電極 に電源Eからパルス電圧がED加される一例を示す概略断 面図である。この画像表示装置には、対向電極12と全 面対向電極13が同電位とされ、画索電極11と全面対 向電極13との間及び画素電極11と対向電極12との 間に所定電圧が印加される。

【0019】上記の如く、液晶層3に厚み方向及びこれ と直交する面内方向の各々に所定電圧を印加することに より、図4に示すように、画素電極11上の液晶分子か らねじれが解けてゆく。以下に示すように画素電極11 と対向電極12との距離(電極間隙し)、液晶層3の厚 みd、及び厚みdとねじれピッチpとの比(d/p)を 適値に調節することにより、ヒステリシスが低減して安 定した動作が得られる。

【0020】-実験例-

具体的に、電圧透過率特性、電極間隙し、液晶層の厚み d及びd/pの値とヒステリシスとの相関関係を調べた 諸実験例を示す。

【0021】表面に画素電極11及び対向電極12が形 成されたガラス基板 1 及び全面対向電極 1 3 が形成され たガラス基板2の各表面に配向膜として、日本合成ゴム 株式会社製の平行配向膜である商品名AL3046をス ピンコートにより形成してラビング処理を施し、これら ガラス基板1,2でコレステリック液晶(Merck 社製の 液晶である商品名TL202に同社製のカイラル材であ る商品名CB-15を混合してピッチを調節したもの) からなる液晶層3を挟持して液晶セルを作製する。当該 液晶セルを形成するための前記各条件を総称して条件A

【0022】(実験例1)先ず、電圧透過率特性(V-T特性)を測定する。本例では、条件Aに加え、画素電 極11及び対向電極12について画素電極幅W, 、対向 電極幅W、及び電極間隙Lを図5のように定義した場合 に、図6に示すように、画素電極幅W,、対向電極幅W 、及び電極間隙しの各値が等しくなるように形成された ガラス基板1を用い、ヒステリシスの変化が見えるよう に液晶に黒色色素を混入し、液晶層3の厚みを6 μm. d/pを2.26となるように液晶セルを作製して、電 圧透過率特性(V-T特性)を測定した。ととで、本例 の比較例として、図22に示すような従来の液晶セルを 作成して同様に測定した。

【0023】測定結果を図7に示す。このように、従来 例では大きなヒステリシスが表れたが、それに対して本 例では殆どヒステリシスが見られず、大幅なヒステリシ スの低減が確認できた。

【0024】(実験2)本例では、条件Aに加え、画素 電極11及び対向電極12が、画素電極幅型、、対向電

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され、電極間隙Lが4μm、6μm、10μm、15μm、25μmとされた各ガラス基板1を用い、d/pを変えてそれぞれ液晶セルを作製して、d/pとヒステリシス幅との関係を調べた。但し、ヒステリシス幅をヒステリシスの最大幅として定義する。ここでも実験1と同様に、図22に示すような従来の液晶セルを比較例とした。

【0025】測定結果を図8に示す。 d/pの値が大きくなると、画素電極11上の液晶分子がガラス基板1に対して垂直に変形し、複雑な配向変形を呈し始めるためにヒステリシスは大きくなる。具体的には、d/pが14以下であり且つ電極間隙しが6μm以下の場合に従来例より小さいヒステリシスとなっていることが判る。特に、液晶層3の厚みdが5μm以下であり且つd/pが2以下の場合に、ほとんどヒステリシスが発生していない結果が得られた。ヒステリシスの低減が確認できる電極間隙しとd/pとの関係は、以下の表1に示すようになる。

【0026】 【表1】

電極間隙L	d/p
4 μm	16以下
6 μm	14以下
1 0 μm	4 U.F
1 5 μm	4以下
2 5 μm	4以下

【0027】なお、垂直配向膜を用いた液晶セルについ 1 とても実験1,2と同様の測定を試みたところ、ヒステリ 40 る。シスの改善が見られた。

【0028】(実験3)本例では、条件Aに加え、画素電極11及び対向電極12が、画素電極幅W1、対向電極幅W1、及び電極間隙Lの各値が等しくなるように形成されたガラス基板1を用い、電極間隙Lを4μmとした液晶セル(セルα)と、比較例として、図9に示すような前記液晶セルでガラス基板2に全面対向電極13を有しない液晶セル(セルb)を用いた。これらの液晶セルを用いて電圧透過率特性を測定し、測定した電圧透過率特性から透過率がほぼ一定となる駆動電圧を求めた。

[0029] 測定結果を図10に示す。このように、セルaはセルbに比して遙かにヒステリシスが小さく、駆助電圧を低くできることが判る。

[0030] (実験4)本例では、条件Aに加え、画素電極11及び対向電極12が、画素電極幅W₁=対向電極幅W₂ 苯電極間隙Lとなるように形成されたガラス基板1を用いた場合(図 11(a))、画素電極幅W₁=電極間隙L×対向電極幅W₂(画素電極幅W₂=電極間隙L×対向電極幅W₂でも同様)となるように形成されたガラス基板1を用いた場合(図11(b))、画素電極幅W₁、対向電極幅W₂及び電極間隙Lが何れも異なる値とされた場合(図11(c))の各々について実験1~3を行なった。その結果、何れの場合にもヒステリシスの改善が見られた。

[0031]-変形例-

以下、本実施形態の画像表示装置の諸変形例について説明する。ととでは、本実施形態の画像表示装置と同様の 構成部材等については同符号を記して説明を省略する。

【0032】(変形例1)とこでは、図12に示すよう に、画素電極11及び対向電極12の幅方向断面形状を 突起状にした液晶セルを備えた画像表示装置を開示する。 突起形状は図示のようなものだけに限らず、テーパー角を任意に選んだものや曲面で構成されたものが使用できる。この場合にも、本実施形態と同様にヒステリシスの大幅な改善が見られる。

【0033】(変形例2)ここでは、図13に示すように、画索電極11及び対向電極12がアルミニウム(A1)から形成されてなるガラス基板1と、全面対向電極13が透明電極(ITO)で形成されてなるガラス基板302を用いてコレステリック液晶の液晶層3を挟持してなる液晶セルを備えた画像表示装置を開示する。この液晶セルを用いて画像表示特性を観察したところ、アルミニウム電極である画素電極11及び対向電極12で反射された光も有効に利用することができ、良好な表示を得ることができることを確認した。

[0034]本例では、画素電極11及び対向電極12 に共にアルミニウムを材料として用いたが、銀(Ag) 等の反射率が高い金属を用いること、または画素電極1 1と対向電極12で異なる金属を使うことも可能であ

[0035](変形例3)とこでは、図14に示すように、画索電極11及び対向電極12が透明電極で形成されてなるシリコン基板21と、全面対向電極13が透明電極で形成されてなるガラス基板2とを用いてコレステリック液晶の液晶層3を挟持してなる液晶セルを備えた画像表示装置を開示する。との液晶セルを用いて画像表示特性を観察したところ、シリコン基板21で反射された光も有効に利用することができ、良好な表示を得ることができることを確認した。

50 【0036】(変形例4)ととでは、図15に示すよう

れぞれ挟持して各液晶セルを作製し、それらを積層す ス

に、画素電極11及び対向電極12が透明電極で形成されてなるガラス基板1-と、全面対向電極13がCr層で形成されてなるガラス基板2とを用いてコレステリック液晶の液晶層3を挟持してなる液晶セルを備えた画像表示装置を開示する。この液晶セルによれば、Cr層が光吸収層として機能し、Cr層に達した光は吸収されるために、良好な黒状態を得ることができる。

【0037】(変形例5) とこでは、図16に示すように、画素電極11及び対向電極12が透明電極で形成されてなるガラス基板1と、全面対向電極13かCr層である黒色光吸収層13a及び透明電極13hの積層構成とされてなるガラス基板2とを用いてコレステリック液晶の液晶層3を挟持してなる液晶セルを備えた画像表示装置を開示する。この液晶セルによれば、黒色光吸収層13aが光吸収層として機能し、黒色光吸収層13aに達した光は吸収されるために、良好な黒状態を得ることができる。

【0038】(変形例6)ととでは、図17に示すように、画索電極11及び対向電極12が透明電極で形成されてなるシリコン基板1と、全面対向電極13が透明電極で形成されてなるガラス基板2とを用いてコレステリック液晶の液晶層3を挟持してなる液晶セルを構成し、液晶セルの背面に黒色光吸収板22を貼り合わせてなる画像表示装置を開示する。この液晶セルによれば、黒色光吸収板22に達した光は吸収されるために、良好な黒状態を得ることができる。

【0039】(変形例7)とこでは、図18に示すよう に、ねじれピッチの相異なる液晶からなる3層の液晶層 3a, 3b, 3cを、ガラス基板31~34を介してそ れぞれ挟持してなる各液晶セルを備えた画像表示装置を 開示する。この液晶セルにおいては、各液晶層3a,3 b. 3cの一方の面には第1の電極(画素電極11及び 対向電極12)が、他方の面には第2の電極(全面対向 電極13)が存するように、ガラス基板31~34に各 電極が形成されている。即ち、ガラス基板31の一方の 表面(液晶層3a側)には第1の電極、ガラス基板34 の一方の表面(液晶層3c側)には第2の電極、ガラス 基板32,33の一方の表面には第1の電極、他方の表 面には第2の電極が形成されている。そして、積層され た液晶セルの下部(ガラス基板31の他方の表面)に黒 色光吸収板35として偏光軸を直交させた2枚の偏光子 が貼り合わされる。

【0040】具体的には、各電極11~13を透明電極から形成し、画素電極幅W, 対向電極幅W, 及び電極間隙Lの各値が等しくなるように形成されたガラス基板31~34を用い、ねじれピッチが0.40μm、0.33μm、0.27μmであるコレステリック液晶(Merck 社製の液晶である商品名TL202に同社製のカイラル材である商品名CB-15を混合してねじれピッチを調節したもの)からなる液晶層3a,3b,3cをそ50

[0041] それぞれの液晶セルを電圧で駆動させることで黒、白、赤、緑、青、黄、紫、水色の8色が得られることを確認できた。この場合、液晶層3a,3b,3cを備えた各液晶セルは、それぞれ青、緑及び赤の光を選択反射することができ、それぞれ0.25 μ m \sim 0.30 μ m \sim 0.31 μ m \sim 0.36 μ m \sim 0.38 μ m \sim 0.44 μ mの範囲であれば目視による大幅な色変化 が見られなかった。

【0042】(変形例8) ここでは、図19に示すように、画素電極11、対向電極12及び全面対向電極13をそれぞれ透明電極から形成してなるガラス基板1,2を用い、当該ガラス基板1,2間にねじれピッチの相異なる液晶分子からなる3種の液晶層3d,3e,3fが繰り返し設けられて液晶セルを構成し、セル背面に黒色光吸収板42を貼り合わせてなる画像表示装置を開示する。この液晶セルにおいては、液晶の混合を防止するための遮蔽物41で仕切られた領域に前配各液晶が封入され、各画素毎に対応して液晶層3d,3e,3fに対応した一組の画素群から構成され、それぞれの画素に対応した液晶層を電圧駆動させることで黒、白、赤、緑、青、黄、紫、水色の8色が得られる。

[0043] 具体的には、各電極 $11\sim13$ を透明電極から形成し、画索電極幅 W_1 、対向電極幅 W_2 及び電極間隙上の各値が等しくなるように形成されたガラス基板 1, 2を用い、ねじれピッチが0. 27μ m, 0. 33μ m, 0. 40μ mであるコレステリック液晶からなる液晶層 3 d, 3 e, 3 f を各画素毎に配して液晶セルを作製する。

【0044】(変形例9)ここでは、図20に示すように、ねじれ方向の相異なる、即ち、左ねじれの液晶からなる液晶層3hを、ガラス基板51~53を介してそれぞれ挟持してなる各液晶セルを備えた画像表示装置を開示する。この液晶セルにおいては、各液晶層3g、3hの一方の面には第1の電極(画素電極11及び対向電極12)が、他方の面には第2の電極(全面対向電極13)が存するように、ガラス基板51~53に各電極が形成されている。即ち、ガラス基板51の一方の表面には第1の電極、ガラス基板53の一方の表面には第1の電極、ガラス基板53の一方の表面には第1の電極、ガラス基板53の一方の表面には第1の電極、ガラス基板53の一方の表面には第2の電極が形成されている。そして、積層された液晶セルの背面に黒色光吸収板54が貼り合わされる。

【0045】具体的には、右ねじれコレステリック液晶としてMerck 社製の液晶である商品名TL202に同社製のカイラル材である商品名CB-15を混合したものと、左ねじれのコレステリック液晶としてMerck 社製の液晶である商品名TL202に同社製のカイラル材であ

る商品名Ysを添加したものを積層し、いずれも緑色の 選択反射光が得られるようにねじれピッチを0.34 μ 血に調節した。積層した液晶パネルを観察した結果、単 層の液晶パネルに比して明るい表示が得られることを確 認した。

【0046】(変形例10)図21に示すように、図2 に例示する本実施形態と同様の液晶パネルを用い、前面に前方散乱板61、背面に黒色光吸収板62が貼り合わられてなる画像表示装置を例示する。この液晶パネルの表示画像を観察した結果、電圧を変化させた場合に前方 10 散乱板61が無い場合よりも良好なコントラストが得られることを確認した。

【0047】以下に示す諸態様もまた本発明を構成する。

【0048】液晶表示装置の一態様であって、ねじれピッチが $0.25 \mu m \sim 0.44 \mu m$ であることを特徴とする。

【0049】液晶表示装置の一態様であって、前記画素 電極の電極幅又は対向電極の電極幅と、前記画素電極と 前記対向電極との距離が異なることを特徴とする。

【0050】液晶表示装置の一態様であって、前記画素 電極の幅と前記対向電極の幅が異なることを特徴とする。

【0051】液晶表示装置の一態様であって、前記画素 電極及び前記対向電極の各断面形状が突起状とされてい ることを特徴とする。

【0052】液晶表示装置の一態様であって、前記各基板の一方の前記電極が金属で形成されていることを特徴とする。

【0053】液晶表示装置の一態様であって、前記画素 30 電極と前記対向電極が異なる金属で形成されていること を特徴とする。

[0054]液晶表示装置の一態様であって、前記各基板の一方が光反射機能を有することを特徴とする。

【0055】液晶表示装置の一触様であって、前記各基板の一方が光吸収機能を有することを特徴とする。

[0056]液晶表示装置の一態様であって、前記各基板の一方について、前記電極と当該基板との間に光吸収層が形成されているととを特徴とする。

【0057】液晶表示装置の一態様であって、前記各基 40板の一方に光吸収層が外付されていることを特徴とする。

【0058】液晶表示装置の一態様であって、前記各基板の一方に散乱板が貼り付けられていることを特徴とする。

[0059]

(発明の効果)本発明によれば、コレステリック液晶又はカイラルネマティック液晶からなる液晶層を備えた液晶表示装置について、ヒステリシスの発生を抑止し、低電圧による駆動を可能とする表示品位の高い液晶表示装 50

置が実現する。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本実施形態の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略平面図である。

【図2】本実施形態の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略断面図である。

[図3]本実施形態の画像表示装置の各電極にバルス電 圧が印加される一例を示す概略断面図である。

[図4]本実施形態の画像表示装置の動作原理を説明するための概略断面図である。

【図5】画素電極及び対向電極について、画素電極幅♥, 、対向電極幅♥, 及び電極間隙Lを定義する概略断面図である。

【図6】実験例1の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略 断面図である。

【図7】電圧透過率特性(V-T特性)の測定結果を示す特性図である。

[図8] 液晶層の厚み d とねじれピッチp との比(d/p) とヒステリシス幅との関係を示す特性図である。

20 【図9】全面対向電極を有しない液晶セルを示す概略断面図である。

【図10】液晶層の厚みdとねじれピッチpとの比(d /p)とヒステリシス幅との関係を示す特性図である。

【図11】画素電極幅W,、対向電極幅W,、電極間隙 Lの関係を変えた種々の液晶セルを示す概略断面図であ

【図12】変形例1の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略断面図である。

[図13]変形例2の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略断面図である。

【図 14】変形例3の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略断面図である。

【図 1 5 】変形例 4 の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略断面図である。

[図16]変形例5の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略断面図である。

【図 】7 】変形例6の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略断面図である。

[図18]変形例7の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概 略断面図である。

【図 1 9 】変形例 8 の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略断面図である。

(図20)変形例9の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略断面図である。

[図21] 変形例10の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す 概略断面図である。

【図22】従来の画像表示装置の主要構成を示す概略断 面図である。

【符号の説明】

50 1, 2, 31~34, 51~53 ガラス基板

12

- 3. 3a~3h 液晶層
- 11 画素電極
- 12 対向電極
- 13 全面対向電極

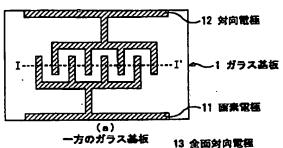
* 21 シリコン基板

22, 35, 42, 54, 62 黑色光吸収板

41 遮蔽物

* 61 前方散乱板

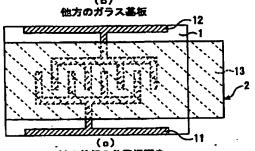
[図2]



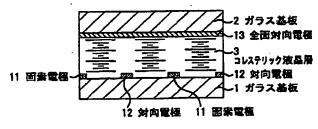
11

【図1】



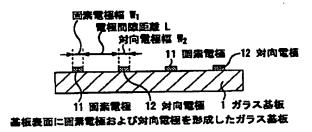


一対の基板の各電極菌を 互いに内側にして貼り合わせた時の構成

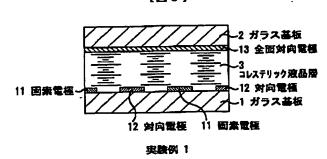


本実施形態の液晶セル

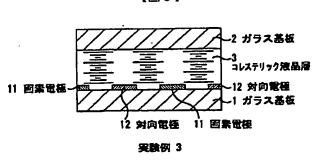
[図5]



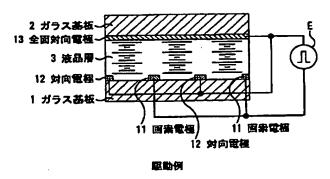
【図6】

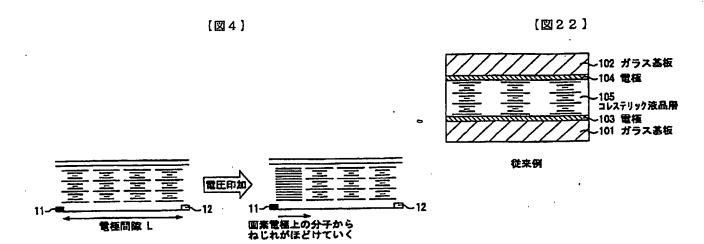


[図9]

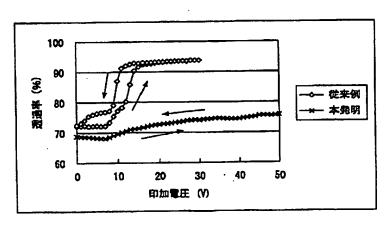


[図3]

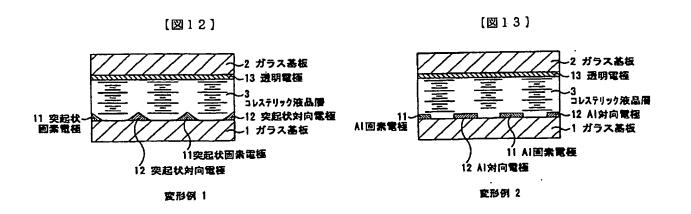




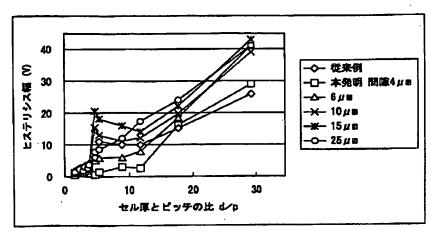
[図7]



電圧透過率特性(セル薄6μm、d/p=2.26)

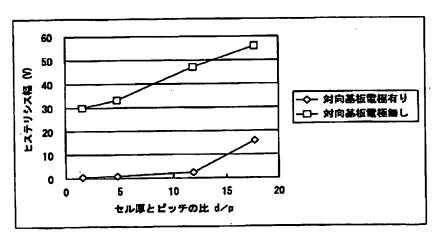


[図8]

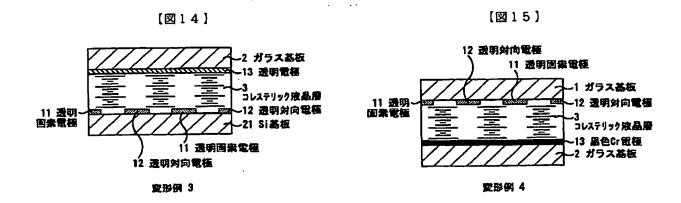


セル厚とピッチの比d/pとヒステリシス幅の関係

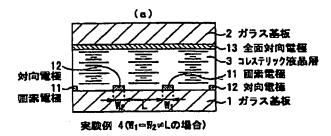
[図10]

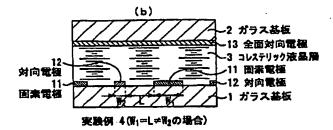


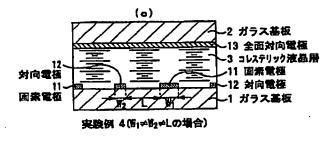
対向基板の電極有能とヒステリシスの関係(囲素電極と対向電極の距離は4μm)



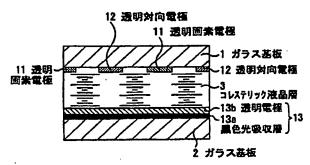
[図11]





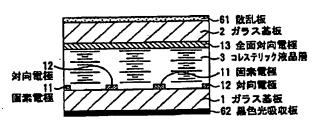


[図16]



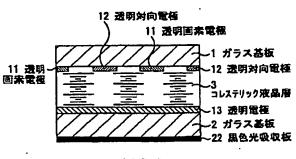
変形例 5

[図21]



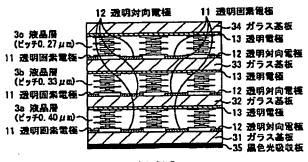
変形例 10

[図17]



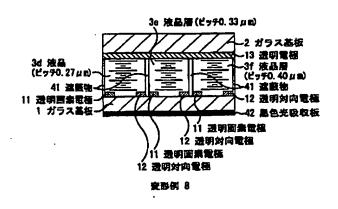
变形例 6

(図18)

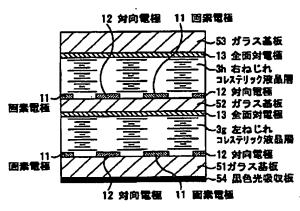


变形例 7





[図20]



實形例 9

フロントページの続き

下ターム(参考) 2H088 GA02 GA03 GA17 HA08 HA14 JA13 KA12 MA02 MA20 2H092 GA13 JA24 NA25 PA09 QA10